

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
6 October 2005 (06.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/093995 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **H04L 12/00**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2005/001011

(22) International Filing Date: 16 March 2005 (16.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0406901.9 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004) GB

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: TRANSMITTING RECORDED MATERIAL

$t_0$   $b_0$  bits

...

$t_i$   $b_i$  bits

...

$t_{N-1}$   $b_{N-1}$  bits

(57) Abstract: Recorded material such as video is transmitted in compressed form to a receiver, which has a buffer for smoothing differences between the data rate received and that consumed by a decoder that follows. The whole of the recording is analysed to determine a point at which to commence playing such that no buffer underflow can occur; the decoder commences playing only when this point has been reached.

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